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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/085,965	02/28/2002	Donald C. Likes	TT3973	1256

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EXAMINER

BATES, KEVIN T

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2155

DATE MAILED: 09/29/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/085,965

Applicant(s)

LIKES ET AL.

Examiner

Kevin Bates

Art Unit

2155

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 February 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 7-22-02.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

This Office Action is in response to a communication made on February 28, 2002.

The Change of Address' were received on May 14, 2002, October 31, 2003, and June 6, 2005.

The Information Disclosure Statement was received on July 22, 2002 and has been considered.

Claim Objections

Claims 11 and 21-23 are objected to because of the following informalities:

Regarding claim 11, the dependent claim ends with a semi-colon. All claims should end with a period to be considered proper.

Regarding claim 21, the words and on line 4 is preceded by another and, so there a duplicate words. Claims 22 and 23 have the same issue.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Man (5710908).

Regarding claims 1, 10, and 18, Man teaches a method comprising: obtaining a message from a first component of a software system (Column 6, lines 19 – 24); identifying a module to handle scheme-specific communication of the message (Column 10, lines 35 – 44); and using the module for communicating the message from the first component to a second component of the software system (Column 10, lines 42 – 45).

Regarding claims 2, 11, and 19, Man teaches the method of claims 1, 10, and 18 wherein the communicating the message comprises using communication scheme-specific programming code of the module, wherein the first component does not comprise the communication scheme-specific programming code; and the second component does not comprise the communication scheme-specific programming code (Figure 2, elements 250, which is the first communication component, elements 230-232, which are modules with the scheme-specific programming code separate from the first component).

Regarding claims 3, 13, and 20, Man teaches the method of claims 1, 10, and 18 wherein the using the module for communicating the message comprises at least one of a group consisting of the following: using a communication scheme-specific transmitter for transmitting the message (Column 10, lines 42 – 45); and using a communication scheme-specific receiver for receiving the message (Column 5, line 60 – Column 6, line 2).

Regarding claims 4, 14, and 21, Man teaches the method of claims 1, 10, and 18 wherein the identifying the module comprises calling a communication scheme handler to identify the module (Column 10, lines 23 – 31).

Regarding claims 5, 15, and 22, Man teaches the method of claims 4, 10, and 18 wherein the identifying the module comprises at least one of a group consisting of the following: requesting a transmitter server to identify the module (Column 10, lines 23 – 31, where the system calls the transmitter part of the server to select the module and send messages through the selected module); and requesting a receiver server to identify the module (Column 5, line 60 – Column 6, line 2, where the system calls the receiving part of the server to select the module and multiplex messages through the selected module).

Regarding claims 6, 12, and 23, Man teaches the method of claims 1, 10, and 18 wherein the communicating the message comprises using a common interface for the first component and the second component (Column 7, lines 11 – 12).

Regarding claims 7, 16, and 24, Man teaches the method of claims 1, 10, and 18, wherein the communicating the message comprises: using a first resource locator to identify the first component; and using a second resource locator to identify the second component (Column 10, lines 35 – 44, destination ID and access ID).

Regarding claims 8, 17, and 25, Man teaches the method of claims 7, 16, and 24 wherein the communicating the message comprises: using a first communication scheme from the first resource locator for communicating with the first component; and using a second communication scheme from the second resource locator for communicating with the second component (Column 10, lines 35 – 44, where the resource locators are mapped with the access line pairs which identifies the scheme modules).

Regarding claims 9 and 26, Man teaches the method of claims 8 and 25 wherein the first and second communication schemes are the same (Figure 3, elements 281-283, where the first and second components are connected through the same protocols).

Prior Art

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

U. S. Patent No. 5793771 issued to Darland, because it discloses a protocol module between components in a software system.

U. S. Patent No. 5182748 issued to Sakata, because it discloses a protocol conversion system.

U. S. Patent No. 5706211 issued to Beletic, because it discloses a protocol module interface, for selected a plurality of protocol modules.

U. S. Patent No. 6151390 issued to Volftsun, because it discloses a protocol converter.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kevin Bates whose telephone number is (571) 272-3980. The examiner can normally be reached on 8 am - 4:30 pm.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Saleh Najjar can be reached on (571) 272-4006. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2155

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

KB

KB
September 25, 2005


SALEH NAJJAR
PRIMARY EXAMINER